

# Tennessee Board of Dentistry



## Newsletter



Fall 2005

A regulatory agency of the State of Tennessee

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<http://tennessee.gov/health>

(615) 532-3202 or 1-800-778-4123 Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Central Time (except State and Federal holidays) Fax: (615) 532-5164

The Board of Dentistry has the duty and responsibility to function in such a manner as to promote and protect the public's health, safety and welfare. Thus, the Board must review licensure applications and determine whether the applicant is qualified to be issued a license in accordance with the facts, the law and the regulatory statutes governing the profession, public welfare demanding it. *Policy Statement Adopted May 1998*



### Spotlight on New Rules

There are two sets of rules that became effective this fall. The rules govern restorative functions and prosthetic functions certification for dental hygienist and registered dental assistants and the courses to obtain these certifications, which became effective October 17, 2005, and mobile dental clinics, treatment of nursing home patients, continuing education and licensure process, which became effective November 6, 2005.

The restorative function and prosthetic function rules are lengthy, but highlights of the rules are as follows:

- Rule 0460-3-.10 – Dental Hygienists and Rule 0460-4-.10 – Registered Dental Assistants (modified to address both the hygienist and assistant wording):
  - (1) - Dental hygienists or dental assistants who have a minimum of two (2) years continuous full-time employment in a dental practice as a licensed dental hygienist or as a registered dental assistant are eligible for admission to Board-approved certification courses in restorative and/or prosthetic functions. A licensed dental hygienist or registered dental assistant must complete a Board-approved certification course in restorative or prosthetic functions and obtain the appropriate certification, issued by the Board, before he/she can perform restorative or prosthetic functions on any patient.
  - (2) - Certification in restorative or prosthetic functions is only valid as long as the licensed dental hygienist or registered dental assistant has a current license to practice dental hygiene. If the license expires or is retired, the certification is also considered expired or retired and the dental hygienist or registered dental assistant may not perform restorative or prosthetic functions until the license is reinstated or reactivated.
  - (3) - Licensed dental hygienists or registered dental assistants who possess a certification in restorative or prosthetic functions shall prominently display their current renewal certificate at their place of employment.
  - (4) - Licensed dental hygienists or registered dental assistants with certification in restorative or prosthetic functions may perform restorations or prosthetic functions only under the direct supervision and full responsibility of a licensed dentist.

Continued on Page 2




### New Policies Adopted by the Board

The Board of Dentistry adopted two policies at the September 21-23, 2005 meeting of the Board. They are the 'Policy For Applicants with Out-of-State Discipline or Convictions' and the 'Policy for Management Of Prescribing With Emphasis On Addictive Or Dependence-Producing Drugs'. The 'Policy for Management of Prescribing With Emphasis on Addictive Or Dependence-Producing Drugs' is lengthy and is not being published in this article. The other policy is as follows:

#### Policy For Applicants with Out-of-State Discipline or Convictions


- » The position of the Tennessee Board of Dentistry is that applicants who apply for licensure or registration and the applicant has been disciplined in another state or jurisdiction, the applicant will not be eligible for licensure in Tennessee until such time that the action in the other state/jurisdiction is clear. Applicants who have been disciplined in another state or jurisdiction may be required to appear before the Board of Dentistry, even if the action in the other state/jurisdiction is clear, before a determination is made regarding licensure or registration in Tennessee.
- » If an applicant has a criminal conviction, the Board requires that the applicant provide evidence from the court that all sentences and probation requirements have been completed. Applicants who have criminal convictions may be required to appear before the Board of Dentistry, even if all sentences and probation requirement have been completed, before a determination is made regarding licensure or registration in Tennessee.

You can view all policies of the Tennessee Board of Dentistry on the Board's Web site under "Policy Statements" 



### Move Date Changed!



As reported in the Summer 2005 Newsletter, the Bureau of Health Licensure and Regulation, which includes the Board of Dentistry, is moving to offices located in the Metro Center area of Nashville. The tentative move date has been changed to the winter of 2006. 

## Spotlight on New Rules

Continued from page 1

- (5) - Prohibited Procedures – The following procedures are prohibited for all dental hygienists and registered dental assistants, including those who have certification in restorative or prosthetic functions:
  - (a) Restorative Functions
    - 1. Diagnosing need for restorations;
    - 2. Preparation/Cutting of the tooth or soft tissue;
    - 3. Modifying existing structure;
    - 4. Removal of caries, bases or liners; and
    - 5. Use of high-speed handpieces intraorally.
  - (b) Prosthetic Functions
    - 1. Diagnosing need for any prosthetic appliance;
    - 2. Establishing vertical dimension of occlusion and interocclusal records;
    - 3. Delivering and/or adjusting appliance; and
    - 4. Use of high-speed handpieces intraorally.
- Rule 0460-1-.01(9) - Full-Time Employment – A minimum of one thousand and five hundred (1500) employed hours per year.
- Rule 0460-5-.02, 0460-5-.03, outlines the requirements for the certification courses.

The restorative functions course is a minimum of 96 hours over three weeks and the prosthetic functions course is a minimum of 64 hours over two weeks. The University of Tennessee – Memphis was approved by the Board as course providers for both of these courses. For information regarding for either of these courses or dates of the course, contact the following:

University of Tennessee College of Dentistry  
Continuing Dental Education  
875 Union Avenue  
Memphis, TN 38163  
(901) 448-5386

The second set of rules includes new rules governing mobile dental clinics and treatment of nursing home patients are as follows:

### Rule 0460-1-.01 Definitions

- (12) Mobile Dental Clinic – Any self-contained clinic or unit which may be moved, towed, transported or utilized on a permanent or temporary basis to an out-of-office location in which dentistry is practiced. The out-of-office location may include, but is not limited to, schools, nursing homes, or other institutions.

### 0460-1-.14 Mobile Dental Clinics

- (1) Mobile dental clinics shall be operated/owned only by a dentist licensed in Tennessee, an official agency of the state government or any subdivision thereof, any nonprofit organization, or any hospital. Dental hygienists and dental assistants shall not operate/own a mobile dental clinic.
- (2) All mobile dental clinics in Tennessee shall:
  - (a) Maintain all dental records as provided in Rule 0460-2-.12.
  - (b) Observe all patient rights as provided in Rule 0460-1-.16.
  - (c) Obtain written, informed consent when treating a minor.
  - (d) Comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws, regulations and ordinances regulating radiographic equipment, flammability, construction, and zoning.
  - (e) Obtain all applicable county and city licenses or permits to operate the facility.
  - (f) Comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws, regulations and ordinances regarding infection control and sanitation procedures, including:
    - 1. Providing access to a ramp or lift if services are provided to disabled persons;
    - 2. Having access to a properly functioning sterilization system;
    - 3. Having access to an adequate supply of potable water, including hot water;
    - 4. Having access to toilet facilities;

- 5. Having a covered galvanized, stainless steel, or other non-corrosive metal container for deposit of refuse and waste materials; and,
  - 6. Compliance with Rule 0460-1-.11.
- (3) The mobile dental clinic must have:
    - (a) A dental treatment chair;
    - (b) A dental treatment light;
    - (c) A radiographic unit with appropriate processing equipment;
    - (d) A portable delivery system or an integrated system;
    - (e) An evacuation unit suitable for dental surgical use;
    - (f) Equipment to treat medical emergencies; and,
    - (g) Appropriate and sufficient dental instruments and infection control supplies.
  - (4) The driver of the mobile dental clinic must possess a valid operator's license appropriate for the type vehicle being driven and not have any violations related to the operation of a motor vehicle in the last three (3) years, and not have any violations involving alcohol or illegal substances related to the operation of a motor vehicle in the last ten (10) years.
  - (5) All dental hygienist and dental assistants assisting the dentist must be currently licensed and registered with the Tennessee Board of Dentistry.
  - (6) Dental hygienists may perform delegable procedures for patients of record of their employer dentist who reside in nursing homes pursuant to Rule 0460-3-.09 (2).
  - (7) When treating a nursing home patient, the dentist must comply with Rule 0460-1-.15.
  - (8) Violations of this rule subject the licensee/registrant to disciplinary action, pursuant to T.C.A. § 63-5-124.

**0460-1-.15 Treatment of Nursing Home Patients.** When treating a nursing home patient in a mobile clinic or in a nursing home, the dentist must:

- (1) Record in both the dental record and the nursing home patient record the procedures performed.
- (2) Record in the dental record the name of the facility where the patient resides.
- (3) Obtain written informed consent from the patient or if patient is unable to fully understand and give informed consent, consent must be obtained from the legal guardian of the patient. If a power of attorney is on file in the nursing home for the patient, the written informed consent must be obtained from the person who holds the authority under the power of attorney. It is the responsibility of the dentist to ascertain whether or not a power of attorney is on file for the patient before evaluation of the patient by the dentist; and,
- (4) Consult with the patient's physician when medically indicated.

This rule also changed the number of hours of continuing education required to reactivate a license which has been retired for less than 2 years to half the number required during a continuing education cycle. Another change is that dentists and dental hygienists who apply for licensure by criteria must have passed any examinations required for licensure, if attempted, to be eligible for licensure.

A copy of the full text of the rules, as amended, is available in the "Rules and Regulations" section of the Board's web site. 🦷

### Instructions for Accessing the Board's Web site

- ▶ Log on to <http://tennessee.gov/health>
- ▶ Click on "Licensing" in the title bar
- ▶ Click on "Health Professional Boards"
- ▶ Select "Board of Dentistry"



The rules, statutes, applications, meeting schedule, meeting minutes, policy statements, and list of approved educational schools/programs are all available online. Licensure renewal and licensure verification can also be done at this Web site.



## Disciplinary Actions

The Board, at its meeting on September 21-23, 2005, took the following disciplinary actions:

**Joan Andersen, RDH, Ooltewah, TN** **DH3939**

Violation: Practicing on expired license; engaged in Nitrous Oxide monitoring without proper certification

Action: Reprimanded, assessed \$500 in civil penalties and pay case costs

**Melissa Ashcraft, RDA, Mount Juliet, TN** **DA10026**

Violation: Practicing without a license

Action: Reprimanded, assessed \$450 in civil penalties and pay case costs

**Rita Baggett, RDA, Erin, TN** **DA9408**

Violation: Unprofessional, dishonorable or unethical conduct; habitual intoxication or personal misuse of any drugs or the use of intoxicating liquors, narcotics, controlled substances, or other drugs or stimulants, such as, but not limited to, nitrous oxide sedation, in such manner as to adversely affect the person's ability to practice; dispensing, prescribing or otherwise distributing any controlled substance or other drug to any person in violation of any law of the state or of the United States

Action: License placed on Probation for two years; must gain the advocacy of the Concerned Dental Professional Committee; assessed \$500 in civil penalties and pay case costs

**Darryl C. Byrd, DDS, Brentwood, TN** **DS8460**

Violation: Disciplinary action by the Louisiana Board of Dentistry.

Action: License application was approved but placed on probation until all the terms of the Louisiana probation are lifted.

**Richard Carlin, DDS, Madison, TN** **DS5227**

Violation: Permitted directly or indirectly an unlicensed person to perform nitrous oxide monitoring without certification

Action: License placed on Probation for two years; assessed \$3,100 in civil penalties and pay case costs

**Robert Clark, DDS, Chattanooga, TN** **DS2676**

Violation: Permitted dental hygienist to practice on an expired license; allowed hygienist to engage in Nitrous Monitoring without proper certification

Action: Reprimanded; assessed \$750 in civil penalties and pay case costs

**Heather Couper, RDA, Thompson Station, TN** **DA9065**

Violation: Unprofessional, dishonorable or unethical conduct; violation or attempted violation, directly or indirectly, or assisting in or abetting the violation of, or conspiring to violate, any provision of the chapter or any lawful order of the Board issued pursuant thereto, or any criminal statute of the State of Tennessee; making false or misleading statements or representations, being guilty of fraud or deceit in obtaining admission to practice, or in being guilty of fraud or deceit in the practice of dentistry or dental hygiene or as a registered dental assistant; habitual intoxication or personal misuse of any drugs or the use of intoxicating liquors, narcotics, controlled substances, or other drugs or stimulants, such as, but not limited to, nitrous oxide sedation, in such manner as to adversely affect the person's ability to practice; engaging in the practice as a dental assistant when mentally or physically unable to safely do so

Action: License placed on Probation for a period to run concurrent with judicial diversion but not less than three years; must be evaluated and enter into an Aftercare Contract with the Concerned Dental Professional Committee for a period of five years; assessed \$500 in civil penalties and pay case costs

**Rebecca S. Conkin, RDH, Johnson City, TN** **DH3243**

Violation: Practicing on an expired license

Action: License Surrendered; assessed case costs

**Robin Daniel, DDS, Nashville, TN** **DS4464**

Violation: Assigned duties which require professional judgment or skill to an assistant

Action: Reprimanded; assessed \$2,500 in civil penalties and pay case costs

**Seidina Kelli-Beth Eubanks, RDA, Smyrna, TN** **DA10754**

Violation: Performed Nitrous Oxide monitoring without proper certification

Action: Reprimanded; assessed \$500 in civil penalties and pay case costs

**Thelma Farrington, RDA, Knoxville, TN** **DA10536**

Violation: Practicing on an expired license

Action: Assessed \$500 in civil penalties

**Yvonne Fields, RDA, Nashville, TN** **DA10170**

Violation: Practicing without a license; use of prohibited equipment

Action: Reprimanded, assessed \$450 in civil penalties and pay case costs

**Karen Flowers, RDA, Lebanon, TN** **DA10255**

Violation: Practicing without a license

Action: Reprimanded; assessed \$300 in civil penalties and pay case costs

**Lovelace Gipson, DDS, Memphis, TN** **DS2550**

Violation: Allowed dental assistant to practice on expired license

Action: Reprimanded; assessed \$450 in civil penalties and pay case costs

**A. Joel Gluck, DDS, Nashville, TN** **DS3847**

Violation: Allowed unregistered persons to perform the services of a dental assistant

Action: Reprimanded; assessed \$750 in civil penalties and pay case costs

**Tameka Johnson, Nashville, TN** **Unlicensed**

Violation: Practicing without a license

Action: Assessed \$500 in civil penalties and pay case costs

**Brenda Jordan, RDH, Nesbit, MS** **DH2609**

Violation: Practicing on an expired license; engaged in Nitrous Oxide monitoring without proper certification

Action: Reprimanded; assessed \$500 in civil penalties and pay case costs

**John Kinney, DDS, Clarksville, TN** **DS4249**

Violation: Permitted practical dental assistant to take dental x-rays

Action: Reprimanded; assessed \$600 in civil penalties and pay case costs

**Pattie McCulley, RDH, Maryville, TN** **DA2331**

Violation: Practicing on an expired license

Action: Reprimanded, assessed \$1,000 in civil penalties

**Steven Micah Parkhurst, DDS, Memphis, TN** **DS8176**

Violation: Permitted dental hygienist to practice on an expired license; allowed hygienist to engage in Nitrous Monitoring without proper certification

Action: Reprimanded; assessed case costs

**Tami Powell, RDH, Bellevue, TN** **DH3455**

Violation: Practicing on an expired license; unprofessional, dishonorable or unethical conduct; making false or misleading statements or representations, being guilty of fraud or deceit in obtaining admission to practice, or in being guilty of fraud or deceit in the practice of dental hygiene.

Action: License Suspended; however, suspension is stayed and license placed on Probation; must attend Ethics course; and assessed costs

**Tammy S. Pritchard, RDA, Nashville, TN** **DA6606**

Violation: Unprofessional, dishonorable or unethical conduct; violation or attempted violation, directly or indirectly, or assisting in or abetting the violation of, or conspiring to violate, any provision of the chapter or any lawful order of the board, or any criminal statute of the State of Tennessee; making false or misleading statements or representations, being guilty of fraud or deceit in obtaining admission to practice, or in being guilty of fraud or deceit in the practice as a registered dental assistant. Habitual intoxication or personal misuse of any drugs or the use of intoxicating liquors, narcotics, controlled substances, or other drugs or stimulants, such as, but not limited to, nitrous oxide sedation, in such manner as to adversely affect the person's ability to practice. Dispensing, prescribing or otherwise distributing any controlled substance or any other drug not in the course of professional practice, or not in good faith to relieve pain and suffering, or not to cure an ailment, physical infirmity or disease. Engaging in the practice as a dental assistant when mentally or physically unable to safely do so.

Action: Revoked; assessed \$1,500 in civil penalties and pay case costs

Continued on Page 4

## Disciplinary Actions

Continued from page 3

**Donald Reynolds, DDS, Memphis, TN DS2238**

Violation: Allowed dental hygienist to practice on expired license

Action: Reprimanded; assessed case costs

**Irene Sainz, Nashville, TN Unlicensed**

Violation: Practicing without a license

Action: Assessed \$29,000 in civil penalties and pay case costs

**Hal Schrock, DDS, Picayune, MS DS3325**

Violation: Out of state action; failure to update practitioner profile

Action: Reprimanded; assessed case costs

**Lee Seay, RDA, Gallatin, TN DA6838**

Violation: Practicing on an expired license; unprofessional, dishonorable or unethical conduct; violation or attempted violation, directly or indirectly, or assisting in or abetting the violation of, or conspiring to violate, any provision of the chapter or any lawful order of the board, or any criminal statute of the State of Tennessee

Action: License surrendered

**Antapreet Singh, DDS, Franklin, TN DS7805**

Violation: Permitted unlicensed persons to perform the services of a registered dental assistant; allowed dental assistants to perform services that could only be performed by licensed dentists

Action: Reprimanded; assessed \$600 in civil penalties and pay case costs

**Shannah Sledd, Nashville, TN Unlicensed**

Violation: Unprofessional, dishonorable or unethical conduct; violation or attempted violation, directly or indirectly, or assisting in or abetting the violation of, or conspiring to violate, any provision of the chapter or any lawful order of the board, or any criminal statute of the State of Tennessee; making false or misleading statements or representations, being guilty of fraud or deceit in obtaining admission to practice, or in being guilty of fraud or deceit in the practice as a registered dental assistant

Action: Must immediately cease from identifying herself as a Registered Dental Assistant; shall immediately cease from fabricating and/or causing to be fabricated, documents identifying herself as a Registered Dental Assistant; assessed \$2,000 in civil penalties and pay case costs

**Charlie Spell, III, DDS, Memphis, TN DS6919**

Violation: Unprofessional Conduct

Action: Assessed \$1,000 in civil penalties and pay case costs; must complete three hours of continuing education in risk management

**Roy Stapleton, DMD, Tazewell, TN DS4446**

Violation: Guilty of fraud or deceit in the practice of dentistry; knowingly incorrectly reporting services rendered, reporting incorrect treatment dates, or reporting charges for services not rendered, or filing claims prior to completion of services for the purpose of obtaining payment from a third-party payor unless the payor is notified in writing at the time of filing for payment

Action: Reprimanded

**Michelle Steele, Sherwood, TN Unlicensed**

Violation: Practicing without a license

Action: Assessed \$500 in civil penalties and pay case costs

**Jennifer Stiteler, RDA, Nashville, TN DA9800**

Violation: Performed services that could only be performed by a licensed dentist

Action: Reprimanded; assessed \$600 in civil penalties and pay case costs

**Jackie Towles Clark, RDA, Collierville, TN DA1796**

Violation: Practicing on an expired license

Action: Assessed \$500 in civil penalties and pay case costs

**Michael D. Vaughan, DDS, Nashville, TN DS5342**

Violation: Permitted unlicensed practice

Action: Reprimanded; assessed \$3,000 in civil penalties and pay case costs

**Karen Waymire, RDA, Byhalia, MS**

**DA2857**

Violation: Practicing on an expired license

Action: Reprimanded; assessed \$1,200 in civil penalties and pay case costs



## Board Members Welcome!

A new Board member has been appointed by the Governor.

Agnes S. Young was appointed to replace Mark H. Wildasin as the consumer member.

We would like to thank Mr. Wildasin for his years of service on the Board.

### 2006 Board Meeting and Examination Dates

January 26-27	Board Meeting
January 28	Coronal Polishing Exam
May 25-26	Board Meeting
September 21-22	Board Meeting
September 23	Coronal Polishing Exam

Additional dates may be added if necessary.



## Update: Professional Privilege Tax Reminders Mailed to Delinquent Dentists



The Tennessee Department of Revenue sent out delinquent tax notices in September to any dentist who has not paid the Professional Privilege Tax. Any dentist who holds an active license in Tennessee, whether you practice in Tennessee or not, is responsible for paying the tax. Dentists who do not pay the tax may be suspended or revoked by the Board of Dentistry. (See the article in the Summer 2005 Newsletter for additional information.)

We have received calls that some dentists did not receive a notice to pay the tax earlier this year. If the license is current, you are still responsible for the tax whether or not you receive the notice. If you do not receive a notice and have not paid the tax, you should immediately contact the Department of Revenue at 615-253-0600 (local) or 1-800-342-1003 (toll-free) or you can pay online at <http://tennessee.gov/revenue/tn taxes/proftax/htm>.

The Professional Privilege Tax is a tax created by the General Assembly and not the Board of Dentistry. The tax is currently set at \$400 per year and is due each year by June 1st. This tax is not collected by the Board of Dentistry, but is paid to and collected by the Department of Revenue. Taxes that are not paid timely can accumulate interest and penalties and if not paid by June 1st, it is considered delinquent.



## Specialist Still Need Anesthesia/Sedations Permits



It has come to the attention of the Board's Administrative Office that some specialist think they are covered to administer anesthesia or sedation without a permit just because they have been issued specialty certification. This is incorrect. Any dentist, including specialist, must hold a permit issued by the Board of Dentistry before they administer anesthesia or sedation to patients.

Any dentist who administers anesthesia or sedation without a valid permit issued by the Board is in violation of the statutes and rules and may face disciplinary action by the Board. The applications for the permit are available online at the Board's Web site under "Applications/Forms".



## On-line CPR Renewal Courses

The Board's Administrative Office has received several calls regarding on-line CPR renewal courses. The Board does not accept on-line CPR courses that do not require skill check. The American Heart Association does offer an on-line renewal but they require that the health professional go to one of their training centers for the skill validation portion of the course. Since this course requires a hands-on skill check and it is by an organization that is approved by the Board, it is acceptable for CPR training.

The Board has determined by rule that the following organizations are approved by the Board for CPR training:

1. The American Red Cross
2. The American Heart Association
3. Programs offered in hospital settings
4. Any organization which receives approval of specially designed CPR courses from the Board after its review.

If the course is not thru the American Red Cross, American Heart Association or offered in hospital settings, you need to call the administrative office to verify that the course you are intending to take has been approved and will be accepted by the Board.

If you complete a course that is not accepted and approved by the Board of Dentistry, you are not in compliance with the statutes and rules and may be subject to disciplinary action. ☹️



## Hurricane Katrina



When Hurricane Katrina hit the Gulf Coast area in August 2005, many health professionals lost their livelihoods. Their homes and/or places of employment were damaged or destroyed. The Tennessee Department of Health researched ways to help these displaced professionals become licensed in Tennessee, whether on a temporary or permanent basis. Governor Phil Bredesen signed an Executive Order in September 2005 which allowed the Division of Health Related Boards to issue short-term temporary licensure to health professionals displaced by Katrina.

There were several dentists and dental hygienists who applied for permanent licensure in order to work after the temporary license expires. We were able to work with these professionals to obtain the documentation, if available, or substitute documentation that could satisfy the requirements for licensure in Tennessee. Some documentation was impossible to obtain at the time, such as verifications from the Louisiana Board of Dentistry. The Board's administrative office staff had evacuated to Florida and Texas before the storm and was unable to return to the offices in New Orleans until the end of September.

Since certain documents were impossible to access, the Board's Administrative Office performed National Data Bank checks on all applicants from the effected areas. The information received from the checks was considered when the Board Consultant, who reviews all completed applications, was determining approval or denial of licensure. Everyone who was granted permanent licensure from the Gulf Coast that were initially approved by the Consultant, will not be ratified by the full Board until January 2006. This will allow the licensee time to obtain and submit any documents or documentation normally required for licensure that may not have been accessible at the time of application. Due to the circumstances of the disaster and the efforts to provide support to the victims, many applications were processed within two weeks or less. This was done to allow the individuals who had experienced and lost so much to return to work and begin to rebuild their lives.

Another aspect of this that cannot be overlooked is the support provided by Health Professionals in this state to those in need. You volunteered countless hours to provide care and services, you donated clothes and money to help individuals begin to rebuild, you provided employment to your fellow professionals, and you generally stood ready to provide whatever was necessary to help negate the effects of this monumental natural disaster. The Board of Dentistry and its administrative office would like to offer our thanks to all those who volunteered and participated in the Hurricane Katrina relief effort. Our nickname is "The Volunteer State" and there is no doubt that we have done more than our share to help in Katrina's wake. ☹️



## Local Anesthesia Update

The Local Anesthesia Committee met October 28, 2005 to review the proposed rules for revisions.

Representatives from University of Tennessee-Memphis, Tennessee State University and Roane State Community College dental hygiene programs were in attendance along with Dr. Carl Sebelius from UT-Memphis College of Dentistry and Dr. Charles Williams from Meharry School of Dentistry.

The committee made several changes to the proposed rules, including allowing the administration of local anesthesia to be taught in the dental hygiene programs to students. The revisions will be reviewed by the Board at the January 26-27, 2006 Board meeting to send to rulemaking hearing and will be back for a final vote by the Board at the May 25-26, 2006 meeting.

It will be approximately one year before the rules become effective. Until a dental hygienist is issued certification in the administration of local anesthesia by the Tennessee Board of Dentistry, it is a violation of the statutes and rules for a dental hygienist to administer local anesthesia. ☹️

### Comparison of Number with Current Licenses as of December 31, 1997 and October, 31 2005

	Licensees with a Current Status As Of:		Difference (+/-)	
	October 2005	December 1997	#	%
Dentists	3365	3244	+121	+3.73%
Dental Hygienists	3436	2719	+717	+26.37%
Registered Dental Assistants	4560	3364	+1196	+35.55%
<b>Total</b>	<b>11361</b>	<b>9327</b>	<b>+2034</b>	<b>+21.81%</b>

## Clinical Issues Committee Appointed by Board

The Board of Dentistry appointed a Clinical Issues Committee at the September meeting to review clinical issues that arise from calls and correspondence received by the Administrative Office.

The committee met in November and discussed the following issues:

- Issues regarding dental hygienists and/or dental assistants: night guards, bite splints, Diagnodent lasers, light-curing, Zoom Bleaching systems and flowable composite.
- Issues regarding dentists: botox, appliances used for weight loss, and acupuncture for treatment.

The recommendations of the committee will be reviewed by the Board at the January meeting and the Board will then decide to accept or reject the recommendations. Some of the recommendations will require the creation of policies and/or rules and the decisions of the committee are not final until the Board takes action on the recommendations. The decision of the Board on these issues will be reported in the next newsletter.

**NOTE: Name changes require submission of legal documentation.**



Tennessee Board of Dentistry  
First Floor, Cordell Hull Building  
425 Fifth Avenue North  
Nashville, TN 37247-1010



**Renew faster by renewing online at <http://tennessee.gov/health>**

**Report all address changes in writing within 30 days of the address change.**

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**Tennessee Board of Dentistry  
Board Members as of October 31, 2005**

Eben A. DeArmond, Jr., D.D.S.  
President  
Cleveland

John M. Douglass, Jr., D.D.S.  
Vice-President  
Nashville

Harold L. Fitts, D.D.S.  
Secretary/Treasurer  
Bolivar

Beth A. Casey, R.D.H.  
Nashville

Katherine H. Cherry, R.D.H.  
Clarksville

Jeffrey M. Clark, D.D.S.  
Greenville

Betty G. Fox, R.D.A.  
Knoxville

Joe C. Greer, D.D.S.  
Memphis

James L. Smith, D.D.S.  
Cookeville

Mike Tabor, D.D.S.  
Hendersonville

Agnes S. Young  
Columbia  
Consumer Member

Robbie Bell, J. D.  
Ex Officio Member  
Director of Health Related Boards

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**Board Staff**

Paul R. David  
Executive Director

Dea M. Smith  
Board Manager

Tammy Roehrich  
Administrator

Vacant  
Administrator

Ruby Cloyd  
Licensing Tech

Tina Taliaferro  
Licensing Tech